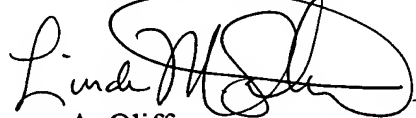


REMARKS

Claims 1 - 24 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1 - 5, 8, 11 - 12, 14, 16 - 18 and 23 -24 are amended to remove reference numerals in accordance with U.S. practice. Prompt and favorable consideration on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: January 17, 2006

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